

URBAN RIVERS
Project Rating Questions

A. GENERAL PROGRAM CONSIDERATIONS

1. Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) or a Historical or Cultural Site:

The project is on the NHI or restores or preserves an area with significant historical or cultural value. **Yes - 2 pts.**

The project is listed on the Natural Heritage Inventory (NHI) or is of local historical or cultural significance. NHI determination must be completed by the DNR

_____ Pts

2. Development Threat. Will the project provide for acquisition of lands where it can be documented that the lands are threatened by development?

a. The property can be divided under the current land use plan. **Yes - 1 Pt**

_____ Pts

b. Property is listed on the open market or an offer has been made by a developer.
Yes - 2 Pt.

_____ Pts

3. Supports other plans

a. The project is in another plan, other than the Local Comprehensive Outdoor Plan that establishes eligibility, including water quality management plans. **Yes-1 pt**
The project must be included in a recreation, natural resource, environmental, or land use plan of another local unit of government, state agency or non-profit conservation organization.. A copy of the plan must be provided.

OR

b. The project will implement recommendations of a riverway plan. **Yes-2 pts**
The project is in a river corridor plan where the Sponsor is the primary contributor and should include integrated resource management methods which call for outdoor recreation, water quality, habitat restoration and preservation, open space planning, economic development, municipal master planning etc.

_____ Pts

4. Continues land acquisitions

a. The project is in a river plan that has had two or more previous acquisitions.
Yes-1 pt

OR

b. The project is in a river plan that has had two or more previous acquisitions and the river plan is adjacent to or complements another permanently protected area. **Yes-2 pts.**

_____ Pts

5. Rail corridors

Will the project provide for acquisition of an abandoned rail corridor for trail use?
Yes - 1 pt

_____ Pts.

6. Natural resource values

- a. The project will improve water quality by acquiring existing erosion problem area(s) or converting hard surfaced lands to green space. The project will be left in a natural state. **Yes-1 pt.**

The project will stabilize eroding lands or convert hard surfaced lands to green space

OR

- b. Will the project provide for acquisition or restoration of wetlands defined in the Wisconsin Wetland Inventory (or another approved wetlands delineation or inventory) or a documented other key habitat area that will be left in a natural state. **Yes-2 pts.**

The project acquires land as defined in the Wisconsin Wetland Priority Plan, restores wetland habitat, or protects habitat identified as The project must acquire or restore habitat documented to be critical to protecting environmental quality. Acquisitions adjacent to Outstanding and Exceptional Resource Waters would also qualify for this point. This project must be left in a natural state.

Pts

7. Dam Removal

Project restores wetlands, river or stream corridors, or habitat following a dam removal. **Yes - 2 pts**

Pts

8. Outdoor recreation for all

- a. The project expands outdoor recreation near an urban center. **Yes-1 pt**

The project provides for an expansion of outdoor recreation that is within easy walking distance (1/4 mile or less) from urban centers. Urban centers would include the traditional business retail centers and residential areas contiguous to the business retail center

OR

- b. The project will serve the documented needs of special populations in urban areas. **Yes-2 pts.**

The project will be used to fulfill identified outdoor recreational needs of special populations (elderly, disabled, low income or minority groups). The sponsor must be able to identify the special population in the project narrative and be able to support with evidence any statement to the above to be eligible for this point.

Pts

9. Supports multiple-use

Does the project provide or support substantial multiple use nature-based outdoor recreational activities that are feasible for the site? **Yes - 1 pt.**

Substantial multiple use activities means more than one activity - e.g., trails and picnicking, fishing and swimming

Pts

10. Supports multiple-seasonal use

Does the project provide or support substantial multi-seasonal nature-based outdoor recreational activities that are feasible for the site? **Yes - 1 pt.**

Substantial multiple seasonal activities means more than one activity, more than one season - e.g., ice fishing and swimming, cross country skiing and hiking.

Pts

11. Public Access To River

- a. The project will improve an existing public access **Yes-1 pt**
The project will expand and/or improve an existing river access; a project bought for a nesting area, nature preserve, etc., that would exclude the public would not be eligible for this point.

OR

- b. The project provides access to the river where none is available now.

Yes-2 pts

Project acquisitions will provide new access for pedestrian riverfront users where no public access in the immediate area is now available. A project bought for a nesting area, nature preserve, etc., that excludes the public because of single use activities would not be eligible for this point.

_____ Pts

12. County population where project is located

For these questions see the Wisconsin Population Centers chart in the Appendix.

- a. Is the project located in a county that has a city with a 2002 population of 50,000 or more? **Yes - 1 pt**

_____ Pts

- b. Is the project located in a county with a 2002 population of:
200,000-500,000 **1 pt**
Over 500,000 **2 pts**

_____ Pts

- c. Is the project located in a county where the five (5) year population growth rate exceeds 2.82 percent (5 yr. state growth rate) and the total population exceeds 50,000? **Yes-1 pt**

_____ Pts

13. Community financial support

- a. A local service or business organization, other unit of government, or nonprofit conservation organization is contributing greater than 25% of the sponsor's cost share of total project costs. **Yes-1 pt**
The contribution may consist of cash or donations of land, labor, services, materials, or equipment rental. The contribution must be documented in the application.

OR

- b. A local service or business organization, other unit of government, or nonprofit conservation organization is contributing greater than 50% of the sponsor's cost share of total project costs. **Yes-2 pts**
The contribution may consist of cash or donations of land, labor, services, materials, or equipment rental. The contribution must be documented in the application.

_____ Pts

14. Two or more units of government

- a. The planning area has 2 or more local units of government cooperating.
Yes-1 pt
Two separate local units of government - county, city, town, village, or tribe - are cooperating and implementing a river corridor plan.

OR

- b. County-wide or two or more counties cooperating. **Yes-2 pts**
Includes all communities located on the river within the county. Local units of government - county, city, town, village, or tribe - are cooperating and implementing a river corridor plan.

_____ Pts

15. Potential for increasing tourism

- a. Will the project attract some visitors from outside the community? **Yes-1 pt**

OR

- b. Will the project be of region wide or statewide significance in terms of travel?

Yes - 2 pts

The project is on a riverfront that will be used to attract large attendance, such as nature centers or other nature-based outdoor recreation focused facilities of statewide significance. Regional significance could be trails on the state trail system or trails that connect to state trails, or trails that cover more than one county, boat launching site that handle high volume launching, river corridors that connect to state or regional parks.

Pts

16. Potential benefits to the overall economy of the municipality

- a. The project is identified as necessary in a river plan to create partnerships that will generate private sector outdoor recreation support industries.

Yes-1 pt

The project will create partnerships that will expand outdoor recreation opportunities that will generate additional income to private sector businesses. An example would be additional revenue generated by a bicycle shop renting bicycles to people to use on a river trail system. Specific documentation must be included to be eligible for this point

Pts

OR

- b. The project will create opportunities to renovate urban centers for businesses that will directly take advantage of the river greenway being created by the project. **Yes-2 pts**

The project will implement a portion of an economic redevelopment or master plan that calls for businesses to renovate or improve existing buildings in a urban commercial region. Businesses will design their buildings to take advantage of the river greenway that is existing and/or created by the implementation of the project

Pts

17. Aesthetic Value

- a. The project will acquire and protect existing green space area(s). **Yes-1 pt**

The project will add additional existing "undisturbed by development" land on the river within an area where the majority of the surrounding land has been developed

OR

- b. The project will acquire lands that are presently developed and will include substantial renovation, restoration, or revitalization of a blighted riverfront area.

Yes- 2 pts

The project will restore under-utilized land along the river for useful outdoor recreation purposes. An example would be: purchasing a partially used or unused building, or a parking lot on the river and converting the land into passive or active green space and renovated support facilities.

Pts

18. Brownfields Site

- a. The sponsor has signed an agreement with the department to do necessary investigation and remediation work on a brownfields site. **Yes-1 pt**

The sponsor must submit a copy of the agreement with the application.

OR

- b. The Project is on lands in process of brownfield remediation. **Yes - 2 pts**

The sponsor must have a remediation plan and schedule approved by the DNR. Documentation of both must be submitted with the application.

Pts

19. Administrative Considerations

a. Has the sponsor completed all previously funded Stewardship Local Assistance and Land & Water Conservation Program (LWCF) projects? **Yes-1 pt** _____ Pts
All funded projects are complete. A new sponsor shall receive the credit for this question.

b1. The sponsor has never received a Local Assistance or LWCF grant in the past.
Yes-3 pts

OR

b2. The sponsor has not received a Local Assistance or LWCF grant in the last 5 years. **Yes-1 pt** _____ Pts

B. TIE BREAKERS

a. A comprehensive plan compliant with s. 66.1001 has been adopted by ordinance.
Yes - 0.1 pts _____ Pts
A copy of the adoption resolution must be submitted to the department.

b. The project appraisals are completed and submitted to the department.
Yes - 1 pt _____ Pts

c. The sponsor has an accepted option or offer to purchase agreement.
Yes - 3 pts _____ Pts

C. ACTIVE PROJECT ADJUSTMENT

For each active project a Sponsor has under the Stewardship Local Assistance or Land & Water Conservation Fund grant programs points will be deducted as follows:

One active project - deduct one point. **No. of Active Projects:** _____ **Deduct:** _____
Two active projects - deduct three points.
Three or more active projects - deduct five points from the total project application score. _____ Pts

PROJECT GRAND TOTAL

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PTS